setting up an aromatic complex in the context of overall demand and supply of Naphtha in the country could be undertaken.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. BRPL has proposals for setting up Benzene Plant and expansion of the existing xylene plant. The proposals are at the various stages for investment approval.

Curtalling the Gas Allocation to Fertilizer Plants

1358. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:
SHRI K.M. KHAN:
SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to cut 20 percent gas allocation to several fertilizer plants based on Hazira-Bijapur-Jagdishpur pipeline;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor, stating whether this cut was anticipated and whether availability of gas was estimated, if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether fertilizer plants are going to be affected adversely as a result thereof;

(d) if so, whether Government propose to reconsider the decision; and

(e) if so, by when and is not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The availability of gas along the HBJ Pipeline is less than the total demand. Supplies are accordingly regulated through Action Plans drawn up from time to time.

(c) to (e) The feedstock requirement of fertilizer plants along the HBJ Pipeline are being met. Action has also been taken to further increase the supplies.

Complaints of Irregularities against Chairman of OSBs

1359. SHRI V. RAJESHWAR RAO:
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the Judges who were Chairmen of Oil Selection Boards up till now;

(b) whether there are any complaints of corruption, irregularities, nepotism, favouritism and the like against such Chairmen;

(c) if so, whether these complaints have been verified and enquired into; if so, what has been the outcome; and

(d) what steps are being taken to prevent such irregularities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Names of the retired Judges who were appointed Chairmen of different Oil Selection Boards from time to time since 1.1.1993 are given in the enclosed statement. (*See below*)

(b) Complaints have been received against the selections made by some of the Oil Selection Boards including alleged indulgence of certain Chairmen and Members in irregularities and malpractices.

(c) and (d) Tenure of the Chairmen and Members of such Boards has been terminated by the Government owing to their unsatisfactory performance. A few selections challenged in the Court of Law have also been set aside by the Court. A Public Interest Litigation has already been filed in the High Court of Delhi. The complaints/allegations are being looked into by the Court and the matter is subjudice. Moreover, operation of the OSBs is presently in abeyance.

Statement

Names of Retired Judges who were appointed Chairmen of Oil Selection Boards since 1.1.1993

S.No.	State	Name
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Justice S. Madhusudan Rao Justice P. Ramachandra Raju
2.	Bihar	Justice B. Prasad Justice S.K. Hazari
3.	Delhi	Justice H.C. Goyal
4.	Gujarat	Justice P.M. Chauhan Justice S.D. Bajaj Justice Rabindranath Pyne
5.	Haryana	Justice Harbans Lal
6.	Himachal Pradesh	Justice V.P. Bhatnagar Justice P.N. Nag
7.	Karnataka	Justice H.G. Balakrishna Justice S.D. Bajaj
8.	Kerala & Lakshadweep	Justice S.K. Khadar Justice M. Maruthamuthu
9.	Madhya Pradesh	Justice Sachidanand Awasthi Justice Harbans Lal
10.	Maharashtra	Justice Raja Bhonsle Justice M.R. Agnihotri Justice P. Dayal
11.	Orissa	Justice G.K. Mohanty Justice Rabindranath Pyne
12.	Punjab	Justice Ujagar Singh Justice P. Dayal
13.	Rajasthan	Justice G.K. Sharma Justice Farookh Hassan Justice P.N. Nag.
14.	Tamil Nadu	Justice M. Maruthamuthu
15.	Uttar Pradesh	Justice Shamsul Islam Jafri Justice S.H. Abidi

S.No.	State	Name
16.	West Bengal	Justice S.K. Hazari
17.	North East	Justice K.N. Saikia Justice Trun Das

छत्तीसगढ़ जिले में रसोई गैस के कनेक्शन

1360. **श्री दिलीप सिंह जूदेव:** क्या **प्रधान मंत्री** यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) मध्य प्रदेश के छत्तीसगढ़ जिले में रसोई गैस (एल पी जी) की एजेंसियां किन-किन स्थानों पर कब से स्थापित हैं;

(ख) वर्ष 1990-91 से 1995-96 तक इन एजेंसियों को रसोई गैस के वर्ष-वार कितने अतिरिक्त कनेक्शन प्रदान किए गए;

(ग) इन एजेंसियों के पास नए कनेक्शन प्राप्त करने हेतु कितने व्यक्तियों के नाम पंजीकृत हैं; और

(घ) जारी किए गए अतिरिक्त कनेक्शनों तथा प्रतीक्षा सूची में दर्ज की संख्या का एजेंसी-वार ब्यौरा क्या है?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री टी० आर० बालु): (क) से (घ) मध्य प्रदेश के छत्तीसगढ़ क्षेत्र में 62 एल पी जी डिस्ट्रीब्यूटरशिपें हैं। उनकी संख्या, वयोवर्ग, 1990-91 से 1996-97 के वर्षों के दौरान जारी किए गए कनेक्शनों तथा जनवरी, 1997 की प्रतीक्षासूची को निर्दिष्ट करता हुआ ब्यौरा नीचे प्रस्तुत है:—

कंपनी	संख्या	वयोवर्ग	जारी किए गए कनेक्शन	प्रतीक्षा सूची
आई०ओ०सी०	28	1972—96	27110	46107
एच पी सी एल	27	1963—96	28265	53282
बी पी सी एल	7	1984—95	17286	16253
योग	62	1963—96	72661	115642

Import of Oil From Iraq

1361. SHRI K.R. MALKANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India did not place any orders for Iraqi oil for four months after the UN embargo on the export of Iraqi Oil was lifted; and

(b) whether the country has lost $ 120 million on oil imports as a result of this delay, as reported in the Economic Times dated the 31st January, 1997 and in the Statesman dated the 2nd September, 1996?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T. R. BALLU): (a) and (b) UNO had permitted limited export sales of crude oil from Iraq from 10.12.1996 for a period of 6 months, under oil for Food Plan. IOC, the sole canalising agency for importing the crude oil to India, has alredy finalised a contract with M/s. Somo of Iraq for import of 0.5 MMT Basrah light curde oil during this period, with the approval of the designated UN committee, as per provisions of UNO's oil for Food Plan.